GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:815
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
IMPORT OF SENSITIVE ITEMS
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI;BRAHMANAND MANDAL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of sensitive items is increasing despite the contrary claims of the Union Government;

(b) if so, its impact on Indian market and economy in regard to employment;

(c) whether the Government have taken or propose to take any concrete steps to curb it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) : Subsequent to removal of Quantitative Restrictions last year, 300 items were identified as sensitive items. Import of these items is being monitored regularly. As per the provisional estimate import of these items for the first six months of the current financial year is Rs.6487 crores as compared to Rs.5854 crores for the corresponding period of last year thereby showing an increase of 11%. The growth in imports in general for the same period is 12%. Detailed analysis of these sensitive items show that the growth is accounted for mainly due to increase of import of crude Palm oil to the extent of Rs.1434 crores. For regulating the import of palm oil, the government has already fixed tariff value for assessment of custom duty which is being revised from time to time.